

Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting
January 10, 2017

Rocky Ripple Town Board Chair Carla Gaff Clark called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Town board members Mandy Redmond, Jill Morris were in attendance as well as clerk-treasurer Kandy Kendall.

Elections:

Board Chair/President: Jill moved that Carla be appointed Town Board Chair for 2017. Mandy seconded it. All were in favor.

Communication Director: Carla moved that Mandy be appointed Communication Director. Jill seconded it. All were in favor.

Safety Director/ Sergeant at Arms: Carla moved that Jill be appointed Safety Director/ Sergeant at Arms. Mandy seconded it. All were in favor.

Jill will be recording our meetings for clarification and to reference but not for transcription. Carla moved that Jill record the meetings; Mandy seconded it. All were in favor.

Rules for Governing Public Meetings

Carla indicated that on the back of this month's agenda, steps were listed that will be followed in 2017 to assist in the fluidity of the meetings. Jill read the rules to the audience.

Treasurer Report

Kandy reported we had received the fall property tax payment to the Town. The audit is continuing and the State Board of Accounts projects to be done the end of February. The Town has not received an invoice from the snow plowing that was done December 13, 2016. Clerk/treasurer reported there were no unusual expenses in December. Mandy moved the treasurer's report be accepted and Jill seconded it. All were in favor.

Secretary Report

Mandy moved that the secretary's report be accepted with corrections. Carla seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Salary Ordinance

The salary ordinance for 2017 was presented to the Board and signed.

Update on Legislation

Rep. Greg Porter was welcomed and he gave a presentation on the bills that have been filed in the IN General Assembly to address flood protection in Rocky Ripple. Rep. Porter indicated that Ed DeLaney filed his bill today but no bill number has been assigned given it takes a few days. This bill provides that the legislative body of a township, with the concurrence of the executive of the township, may adopt and file with the legislative body of the county in which the township is located a

resolution providing for the establishment of a township flood control district or a township drainage district. If you search under DeLaney, the bill will come up on the IN General Assembly website.

Rep Porter's bill is HB1440 and it would bring \$10 million per year into Rocky Ripple from the State budget using lottery surplus dollars to create a water resource development and flood prevention grant fund. The funding would start July 1, 2018 and end December 31, 2024.

Rep. Porter suggested the residents of Rocky Ripple contact their legislators as well as the Speaker of the House to support the proposed bills.

Jill asked Rep. Porter if the City knows we are against the Westfield alignment and he replied; "Yes, they do".

BTNA discussion

Carla said she had received an email from Clark Kirkman who inquired as to how and what Rocky Ripple is doing regarding the Westfield Alignment/Rocky Ripple flood protection. He and Carla are setting up a meeting.

Old Business:

AECOM Report

Mandy reported the City is working on getting bids to do core borings on our current levee. Carla asked the trustees if they are ready to make any motion based on the information provided by Ms. Locke. Jill said she believed that filing a lawsuit at this time against the City would stop all communication with them and stop any potential projects we currently have with DPW and the City.

Mandy said she does not want to rule out the possibility of filing a lawsuit but feels now is not the time. The Board has made great strides with the City in working with Rocky Ripple as well as the two legislation bills coming up this session. She reminded everyone the AECOM report is on the Town's website and suggested everyone review it. She also stated the town board will be sending their comments to the City by January 20th but that resident comments/questions on the report will be accepted even after that date.

Mandy drafted a flood protection survey and cover letter to distribute to Rocky Ripple residents and asked whether trustees were in agreement with the survey as written. Jill made a motion to accept the draft flood protection survey and cover letter for distribution to residents. Carla seconded it. All were in favor.

River Bank Stabilization:

Jill reported she was happy with the Phase 1 portion of the stabilization.

Fountain at 52nd & Canal:

Carla reported this is moving forward and that Indy Runners would like Rocky Ripple to support it. PJ Combs @gmail.com is the site to provide your feedback. The residents at the corner of the Canal path and 52nd Street do not want it located there.

Hohlt Park Stage

Julie Bleakley reported John Bleakley is in the process of doing updated drawings and that there should be an estimated cost by March. The committee has been in contact with volunteers who have offered to help with the labor. Marshal Mike reported the insurance quote showed a \$100 per year increase in our coverage.

INDOT grant

Mandy received three more checks and we currently have over \$3000 in resident's pledges towards paving. Carla said there are three more pledges to come in. Marshal Mike is going to evaluate the streets again and see if he can get Globe Paving out here in February to start on quotes for 2017 work.

RREM

Marshal Mike reported RREM is setting up a CPR class on March 4th. The fees will be collected by RREM and not run through the Town's account.

Chase Bank

Kandy will address the email Carla received from Chase concerning names/phone numbers on our account as well as the type of account we have.

Community Concerns:

Mike Mooney: re: rules governing public meetings. Mike said this is not historically how Rocky Ripple has conducted meetings and asks the board to reconsider and allow citizens to speak on a subject when it is being discussed and not at the end of the meeting under citizens concerns.

Margaret Brabant: what did you learn from Butler University in reference to bringing a lawsuit against the Army Corp of Engineers and/or the City. Carla replied according to Ben Hunter this is not true and that the Butler board of Trustees is congenial to the Westfield floodwall alignment going thru Holcomb Gardens.

Bart Herriman: would like the minutes to be read at the meetings and not just approved and posted. He also wanted to know the wording of the salary ordinance. Bart also requested the language of the flood protection survey that will be handed out to residents be read. Mandy read the survey.

Larry Landis: litigation against the Army Corp of Engineers will create leverage but no Court will say ACE has to put a levee around Rocky Ripple. He suggested we decide what is the collective decision of Rocky Ripple NOT what we don't want: i.e. the Westfield floodwall alignment. We need to address coming together.

Judy Mooney: suggested we have a meeting with a mediator and have a discussion as to what the Town wants if we don't want the wall on Westfield.

Mandy suggested that maybe there needs to be a meeting so the board can go over the details of the reports from the meetings they attend. This simply cannot be done in a board meeting.

With no further business, Mandy moved the meeting be adjourned at 10:31. Jill seconded it. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kandy Kendall,
Clerk Treasurer